

REMARKS

The Office Action mailed May 11, 2004 has been received and reviewed. Claims 1-13, 16-24, and 26-38 are in the case. Claims 1, 10, 23, and 38 are objected to because of various informalities. Claims 26-31 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph. Claims 1-2, 4-7, 9-11, 13, 16-24, 32, and 36-38 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(b). Claims 25-29 and 33-35 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a). Claims 3, 8, 12, and 30-31 have been deemed to contain allowable subject matter.

By this amendment, claims 1, 10, 16, 23, 26, and 38 have been amended. For the reasons set forth below, claims 1-13, 16-24, and 26-38 are believed to be in condition for immediate allowance. Favorable reconsideration of the application in view of the following remarks, is therefore respectfully requested.

Statement of Substance of Interview

Applicant expresses appreciation to the examiner for the in person interview of October 14, 2004 and the telephone interview of October 19, 2004.

In the interviews, claims 1, 10, 16, 23, and 38 were discussed in view of the prior art of record and in particular Abraham, Mossberg, Tisbo et al., Mayhew, and Goldberg. Applicant asserted that the amendments contained in Amendment "A" filed with the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office on August 11, 2004 sufficiently distinguish over the prior art. In response, the examiner asserted that a recitation of "substantially rectangular in cross-section" reads on embodiments illustrated by Mossberg and Goldberg. The examiner and the applicant were, however, able to agree that a recitation of a web portion dimensionally of the same order of magnitude as an adjacent web portion rendered the claims

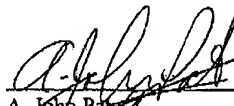
allowable over the prior art. The clarification of "elongated" corrugations in claim 1 also was agreed to more clearly articulate the claimed structure. Accordingly, Applicant agreed to incorporate such language as well as some other minor revisions into the claims by amendment.

In view of the foregoing, Applicant asserts that the objections and rejections contained with the Office Action are rendered moot.

In the event that the examiner finds any remaining impediment to the prompt allowance of any of these claims, which could be clarified in a telephone conference, the examiner is respectfully urged to initiate the same with the undersigned.

DATED this 26th day of October, 2004.

Respectfully submitted,


A. John Pate
Reg. No. 36,134
Attorney for Applicant

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PATE PIERCE & BAIRD
550 Parkside Tower
215 South State Street
Salt Lake City, Utah 84111
Telephone: (801) 530-0330
Facsimile: (801) 530-5955

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